

Marion County Children's Alliance Monthly Meeting Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Invocation:

Given by Andrea Nelson, AmeriCorps/VISTA volunteer working with Devereux Kids.

Introductions:

Mr. Scott Hackmyer introduced Vanessa Ward to explain the showing of the video at the beginning of the meeting. She stated she and Kristin Folts were there to answer any questions on adoption and/or kids for adoption.

Youth & Family Alternatives, Inc. (YFA) has the contract from Kids Central for oversight of adoption services in Circuit 5. If interested call 547-3750 or KCI 873-6332.

Minutes:

The December minutes were approved as written.

Report from Executive Director:

None at this time.

Speaker:

The first speaker was Christopher D. Rison, AICP, Senior Planner for Marion County and Coordinator for the 2010 census. He discussed the importance of "Getting the Community to Count" in order to increase funding and legislative seats. Mr. Rison also went over some myths about filling out the census ie. no sharing of information is done until 79 years have passed. He can be reached at 438-2600 or e-mailed at: Christopher.Rison@marioncountyfl.org

Russell Rasco from the Centers spoke about their new Youth Residential Substance Abuse Facility in Lecanto which serves mainly Marion and Citrus and other Circuit 5 counties (if beds are available). More in-depth details were discussed by Addie Rawls (therapeutic component) and Mary VanBenschoten (academic component). Call 628-5020 or visit the web site at www.thecenters.us

Philip Scarpelli from Dept. of Children & Families spoke on what the local planning team is doing about child abuse prevention, adoption and adoption support. He also mentioned DCF's role in Haitian relief.

Roundtable:

* Susan Mchaffey is collecting for Haiti earthquake victims. Her number is 620-0621.

* Cheryl Lonon – the CF Institute's 22nd Annual Early Childhood Conference, "Beyond the Classroom" to be held on Saturday, March 27 from 7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ewers Center. Contact Marybeth Kyle at 854-2322.

CFCC would be glad to hold the Annual Breakfast this year at their facility. 854-2322 ext. 1597

* Gerry Brent - the next Grant Writers' Network meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25 at OPD at 11 a.m. and anyone interested in "grants.gov" should attend because there are lots of changes. 438-5995

* Lorelei Loudis - the next SAFE program starts in March at 2 locations (Belleview and Ocala). 624-2001

- * Brandi Cooney - CDS has childhood development funds. 629-0055 x 395
- * Scott Price, The Vines - has a Reactive Detachment Disorder program for ages 6+. The program has 35 beds. 671-3130
- * Cindi Grimes – Devereux Kids is offering Front Porch training for free. 454-6830
- * Haley Creasey – call 572-2285 if interested in doing a creative fundraiser.
- * Monica Bryant – Hands Are Not For Hurting will be held on Saturday, March 27. 438-5993
- * Ire Bethea – Asking the community to come out and help build a new playground for Tuscowilla Park on Saturday, March 20.

Parks & Rec has received a grant for water experiences to be used by April 30. Call for more information 368-5517.

* Kim Sandstrom – Arnette House has opportunities for several young male teens in need of community service hours. Call Gerald Jones 427-3640 or Kim 622-4432 x 229.

Text 69866 to find a local SAFE place.

* Meghan Shay, the Centers – NAMI meets the first Wednesday of every other month at 9 a.m. at Senior Services Center. The next meeting will be held on April 7th. 291-5462

* Jim Bullock – FCN meets at noon, 2/10 at OPD and will be discussing getting food to families.

Mentoring meets 2/17 at 11:30 at the Jail Adm. Conference Room and will be discussing peer group mentoring and how to cover the loss of Big Brothers Big Sisters in Marion County. 438-5997

Future Meetings:

Family Violence Prevention	Monday February 8 – 11:00 a.m., Sheriff’s Office
Autism & Other Disabilities	Tuesday, February 9 – 12:00 p.m., ARC Marion
Faith Community Network	Wednesday, February 10 – noon, OPD
Safe Kids Coalition	Friday, February 12 – 9:00 a.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Mentoring Workgroup	Wednesday, February 17 – 11:30, Jail Admin. Conf. Room
Tobacco Coalition	Wednesday, February 17 – 4:00 p.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Childhood Nutrition	Thursday, February 18 – 9:00 a.m., Health Dept. Coleman Ctr.
Grant Advisory Workgroup	Thursday, February 25 – 11:00 a.m., OPD
Alliance Monthly Meeting	Wednesday, March 3 – 11:30 a.m., Jail Adm. Bldg.
Quarterly Board	Wednesday, May 5 – 11:30 a.m., Jail Adm. Bldg.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.